

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

I disagree with the form letter they're sending you from this web site. I don't see why there need to be debates about media conglomeration. It's a fact: diverse ownership of media is essential for disseminating the information the electorate needs to vote in its interests. If the FCC isn't working to break up the media corporations, it's not because the FCC doesn't understand the first amendment or its duty to the people; it's because its employees have decided to serve the corporations. Debate isn't going to change that. Investigations and lawsuits and resignations and firings; THAT'S what will change that. Anyone employed by the government who will not uphold the constitution should be fired. That would put the entire Bush administration on the unemployment lines.